

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has not amended any claims in response to the present Advisory Action. Claims 1-23 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-2, 10-11, 15-16 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by McVey et al (U.S. 5,479,477), hereinafter McVey. Claim 24 has been canceled without prejudice. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the remaining claims.

The Applicant's invention discloses a method and system for accessing help information associated with a TDMA/GSM switch having an adjunct processor (AP). The AP is typically coupled with the switch and used to provide a data dump for operating the switch and access for switch maintenance. (Paragraph 2) The help information for the switch is included and associated with the data dump and provides, as the name indicates, help for using the data through an adjunct processor to the switch. The Applicant's invention discloses the AP with a portion of the help information incorporated in the data normally provided for the operation of the TDMA/GSM switch. Descriptive information is the term used in the Applicant's specification and this information refers to "help information, manuals and/or documentation and the like" (Para. 18). Previously, the Examiner and the Applicant agreed that the term Descriptive information was too broad and the Applicant narrowed the claims to the term help information

Well known in the prior art is a database "farm"; ALEXserv. The present invention provides access to a database, which could be an ALEXserv database, which contains help information that is specific to the particular TDMA/GSM switch. The help information could be retrieved from the database during a data dump to the AP. By including the help information in the data dump, the need to switch between applications

and connections to access both the switch and the help information specific to the switch is reduced or eliminated (Paragraphs 18-24).

The Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to claim 1.

1. (Previously Presented) A method of accessing help information associated with a TDMA/GSM switch having an adjunct processor, the method comprising:

incorporating help information in data provided to the adjunct processor for controlling the TDMA/GSM switch, wherein the help information is associated with the data provided to the adjunct processor to control the TDMA/GSM switch;

accessing the adjunct processor to access the TDMA/GSM switch;

and

accessing the adjunct processor to access the help information incorporated with the data provided to the adjunct processor. (emphasis added)

The Applicant respectfully submits that the McVey reference fails to disclose at least the limitations of an adjunct processor, help information, incorporating the help information in data provided to the adjunct processor and using the information to control the TDMA/GSM switch.

First, the McVey reference is cited for anticipating an adjunct processor. As described in the information provided to the Examiner in the interview dated January 4, an Adjunct Processor is a specific kind of processor in the wireless telecom industry. It refers to a computer that gives switching commands to a wireless switch, in the Applicant's invention, a TDMA/GSM switch. McVey discloses a processor for manipulating and maintaining contents of a database in a computer and for instructing a data router (Co. 4, lines 17-34). The processor disclosed in McVey is not an Adjunct Processor.

The McVey reference uses configuration information for associating control modules with communication resources (Col. 3, lines 4-7). The communications resources are time slots or pairs of time slots conveyed in radio frequency carriers (Col. 3, lines 52-66). Essentially, the configuration information provides identities of communication resources. There is no hint, teaching or suggestion that the McVey

processor controls or is associated in any way with a wireless switch in a telecom network.

Second, McVey is cited for anticipating descriptive information, which is described in the Applicant's specification as including help information, manuals, and/or documentation associated with the TDMA/GSM switch. After an interview with the Examiner, in an effort to more clearly distinguish the Applicant's invention from the McVey reference, the term "help information" was substituted for descriptive information in the claims. Help information is associated with the online switch manual and documentation associated with the TDMA/GSM switch and is information directly related to operation of the TDMA/GSM switch. It is believed by the Applicant that though "descriptive information" may not be specifically defined in the specification, examples of the term are given that are indicative to one skilled in the art. Regardless, the term help information is the current term and the Applicant respectfully asserts that the McVey reference does not anticipate help information.

McVey stores information submitted via an input device (configuring a telephone with ring attributes) and the database comprises a topology view of the control stations (Co. 4, lines 4-33). Control stations are first associated with features they can support, i.e., data and telephone interconnections and a second table in the database associates communication resources with resource features that each communication resource can employ. Essentially, the information stored in the database comprises information applicable for associating control modules that are used to control one of the communication resources. (Column 3, lines 7-11).

As noted before, in contrast to McVey the Applicant's disclosure teaches a method for utilizing the AP to access the TDMA/GSM switch and utilizing a portion of a data dump (stored in an AP database and provided to control the switch) that is the included help information. Utilizing the help information, now stored in the AP, shortens the time between accessing the switch and consulting the help information. McVey does not teach retrieving help information specific to a type of switch and loaded onto an AP from the data dump; nor does McVey teach including the help information in the

data dump. This being the case, the Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and dependent claim 2.

Claims 10 and 15 are analogous to claim 1 and contain similar limitations. The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 10 and 15 and the respective dependent claims 11 and 16.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 3-9, 12-14 and 17-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McVey as applied to claims 1-2, 10-11, 15-16 and 24 above. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

The Applicant agrees that the McVey system may utilize different databases, including ALEXserv. However, as noted above McVey doesn't teach including switch specific help information drawn from a separate database in a data dump of switch control information that is loaded onto an associated AP (Paragraph 22 of the present invention). Also, McVey fails to teach the limitation of accessing the processor to access the switch and the help information, which is specific to the switch that was received during the data dump.

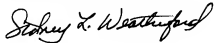
Claims 3-9, 12-14 and 17-23 depend from amended independent claims 1, 10 and 15 respectively, and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements of the independent claims. The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of these claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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